NUMB. XXVIII.

The GRUMBLER.

By Squire GIZZARD.

Quos ego--Sed motos præſtat componere fluctus.
Virg.

From *Tueſday* June 21. to *Friday* June 24. 1715.

June. 20th.

Honeſt Gizzard,

'WHat can be the meaning, that you 'ſuffer the Populace to go on 'quietly in committing theſe 'Outrages and Riots, without ſo 'much as once Grumbling at their Inſolence? If 'you would preſerve my good Opinion, let me 'ſpeedily hear your hoarſe Voice break forth like 'the Roaring of a Lyon. Speak to the Rabble, 'and manifeſt your Affection to your King and 'Country.

Yours,

B. B.

By the Stile and Brevity of this Epiſtle, I gueſs it comes from my Friend Mr. *Barnaby Briſk*; who, I believe, when he writ it, had not the Patience to ſign his Name at Length. I am ſo far from blaming his Vivacity upon ſo juſt a Provocation, that I wiſh every Juſtice of the Peace were animated with his Zeal for the publick Tranquility. I acknowledge my ſelf to have been tardy in the Execution of my Office: therefore, without any farther Loſs of Time, I ſhall this Day ſpeak to my loving Countrymen in ſuch a Manner as, I hope, will prove effectual, and at the ſame Time pacify the laudable Indignation of my worthy Friend and Correſpondent.

ANTHONY GIZZARD, *Eſq*; *the bold* Grumbler *of* Great-Britain, *to all his loving Countrymen, who abound in Valour, and want Underſtanding, ſendeth Greeting.*

WHEREAS by divers Letters, for theſe ſix Months paſt, from ſundry Parts of this Kingdom, as well as by Intelligence from my Emiſſaries in the ſeveral Quarters of this City, I have received all due Information of the frequent Riots, Diſorders and Tumults, which have happened, to the manifeſt Diſturbance of the Peace and Tran-

SEMPER EADEM
HALFPENNY
1754

Tranquility of all good Subjects: and whereas ſeveral able-bodied Men have ſuffered more ways than one for aiding and abetting the ſaid Outrages; and many more are like to ſuffer, if not forewarned by our timely Admonition: I am at laſt moved, out of the great good Will I bear to my Countrymen, to publiſh this my preſent *Grumbler*, for no other End or Purpoſe, but to preſerve all ſuch as earneſtly deſire to *Sleep in a whole Skin.*

Be it therefore known to all the valiant and unwary Natives of this happy Iſland, that by the Laws of *England*, when any Two or more Perſons are met together to do an unlawful Act, and come to put that into Practice, it is a Riot; which the Juſtices of the Peace are impowered to ſuppreſs, as well as the Sheriffs. And the Puniſhment of Riots is the ſame by Law with that of Forcible Entries; which is Impriſonment of Body, to be ranſomed at the King's Will.

Such, in few Words, is the Law of Riots; and ſuch the Puniſhment. But then, conſidering the many accidental Scrapes and Inconveniencies, which a Riorer may be drawn into, it will upon ſerious Reflection be found to be as dangerous to handle an Oaken Plant in a Frolick, as to meddle with cold Iron in Earneſt. Broken Heads, Legs and Arms; Loſs of Brains and Eyes; Impriſonments, Fines, Pillories, Whipping-Poſts, Carts and Gibbets are the Evils, which in a Train attend the raſh Adventures in Popular Tumults.

Were I to recount the Calamities, which not only the Publick, but Multitudes of private Perſons, as well as many intire Families have ſuffered by Riots, from the mutinous Days of *Wat Tyler* and *Jack Straw*, in the Reign of King *Richard* the Second, to the preſent Time; it would be ſufficient to cool the traiterous Courage of the moſt audacious *Jacobites*, and be a Leſſon to other deluded People not to tempt any farther the mildneſs and forbearance of a Government, which ſtudies to make every Subject happy.

I lament the Folly of the Rebels in and about *Mancheſter*; and am in a more particular manner ſorry for the indecent Behaviour of thoſe vulgar and ſeditious Spirits, who have lately brought ſo great a Diſhonour upon our Two Univerſities.

To manifeſt my good Intentions yet farther towards the unthinking hot-brained Rout, I muſt acquaint them, that the Times are altered; and that thoſe ſham Patriots, who out of a pretended Zeal to Monarchy, gave Soveraignty to the *Mob*, are no more in Power. And ſo, my loving Friends and Countrymen, having given you fair Warning, I bid you Farewel.

*** *Stolen or Strayed from* Button's *Coffee-Houſe, One and Twenty* Grumblers, *to the manifeſt Detriment of the Houſe, and the great Diſcouragement of Wit and Learning. Whoſoever therefore ſhall bring them back to the Round Table, or give Notice of them to the* Lion, *ſo as they may be forth coming, ſhall make his own Terms, and no Queſtions be asked.*

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